

The Flag Raising



*Full Particulars--Addresses of
Cory, Biddle and McDonald.
History of the Forts by
Mrs. Hugus.*

Fort Scott, Kansas,
December 3, 1904

PRICE, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

A2109.

FULL PROCEEDINGS

—AT THE—

FLAG RAISING

ON DR. W. S. McDONALD'S LAWN
FORT SCOTT, KANSAS
DECEMBER 3, 1904

COMPILED BY W. R. BIDDLE, 1905

Published as a tribute to the early settlers of Fort Scott.

*If history makes for man's renown,
Record all epochs of your town,
Its characters, whether grey or gay.
Give best that each may do or say.*



RESIDENCE OF DR. W. S. McDONALL, SHOWING BLOCKHOUSE

THE FLAG RAISING



THE raising of the American flag over the Block House, December 3rd, 1904, was one of the most impressive ceremonies ever witnessed in the city. It was a pretty sight, too, one that will be remembered by the citizens of Fort Scott for many years. A program had been previously arranged for the occasion, and it was carried out with not a single incident to mar the harmony of the proceedings. Long before 2 o'clock people began to gather at the corner of First street and National avenue. By 2 o'clock, the time set for the services to begin, there were several hundred persons present, and had it not been for the unpleasant weather the crowd would have been very large. The procession, headed by the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps, reached the Block house at a very few minutes past 2 o'clock. The procession formed on Main street, as follows:

The Woman's Relief Corps.

The Grand Army of the Republic.

The Fort Scott Band.

Degree Teams of the Woodmen of the World.

Citizens in carriages.

The weather was unpleasantly cold, and for this reason the ceremonies were curtailed slightly, but they were solemn and impressive notwithstanding. Immediately upon the arrival at the grounds, the Woman's Relief Corps turned the great flag over to Mayor Congdon and he at once prepared it to be hoisted to the top of the mast, which is more than sixty feet high. With the Woman's Relief Corps, the Grand Army of the Republic circled around the flag pole on the east, north and west, and the band on the south. Old Glory was raised on the signal of the report of the cannon, amid the sweet strains of America by the Band. There was just enough of a wind from the northwest to open the flag to

its full beauty, and as it opened up it received the hearty cheers of the several hundred people gathered around it. The Grand Army gave it three cheers.

JUDGE C. E. CORY'S ADDRESS

C. E. Cory then called the meeting to order and delivered the following address.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

There be men who have no idea of a country other than as a good place to make money in; who know nothing of the worth of a nation other than as it would protect their property; who prefer town lots and mortgages to literary culture; who know nothing about the flag, and care nothing about the flag, except that it stands for the authority and power of the nation which I have mentioned, an emblem of police power to protect them and their property—a kind of a bit of cloth to use as a guidon in forming national alignments. To such people, and there are too many of them, this occasion means nothing. This event is not for them. They are probably now hugging



C. E. CORY

their shekels and counting their profits.

But there are other people, thank God, who can not look with attention upon the emblem that has just been raised here this day without a throb in their hearts at the thought of what it has meant in the past, what it has cost in the past, what it is now, and what it promises for the future. The emblem of some weakling colonies who took it when it was small, and have held it up until



C. F. DRAKE

it is respected by every nation on earth. They do not revere that flag simply because it is a piece of cloth, or that it is a handy symbol to mark a fort or a custom house; but they look to it as the emblem of the very heart and life of the nation, and the very shekinah of our national holies of holies. They look upon that flag, not in a material way, but as emblematic purely of the great foundations of civilization and religious freedom, which sprang into being so vigorously at the time when this flag was born. It has been carried, not in anger, but for the blessing of all peoples, and for the spread of the most kindly spirit of decent self government among men, until it is now the peculiar emblem of all that goes for the uplifting of humanity.

To those people who feel this way this is a great day. The old log building—the block house—speaks to us today, not of blood-shed, not of carnage, not of destruction of homes, not of the destruction of property, but it speaks to us in tender accents of what our fathers did that the principle for which this piece of bunting stands shall live and spread among men. It speaks of the holy principles of fraternity, under which in recent years, and under that flag for the first time in the history of this old world, a victorious nation has seen fit to act the kind parent instead of the rude master. You will observe that even the old cannon standing there in front of the old block house, rotting on the lawn, as a memento of the past, is plugged and spiked. Its tongue of fire is silent. May it ever remain silent.

Nobody can think but that the intelligent part of the Cubans are now thanking God for the blessing of having that flag float over their cities. Where there was disease, and filth, and contagion, there goes health, and sanitation, and comfort. Where there was ignorance, and stupidity, and brutality, there comes schools, and colleges, and everything that makes man better. No other flag on earth can have that said of it.

When on a day in 1865 millions of misguided people saw the last hope of what they were striving for vanish, and a victorious army occupying their cities, the world was shocked and astounded to see a nation, after five years of bloody war, release their prisoners, treat the conquered opposing chieftans kindly, and

do everything in their power to restore that peace which we all hope may never be marred again on our soil.

War is something lurid and horrible even at its best, but it is all the more horrible where brothers' arms are raised against brothers, and, as I say, the nations of the world were astounded that this country was big enough and wise enough at such a time, when the passions of war had wrought up the hearts of men, to extend the olive branch of peace, and immediately proceed to restore the ravages of war.

In the recent troubles in the Philippine Islands, men were killed, property was destroyed, and damage was done. It was not a severe war, but it was too great a war to receive the entire endorsement of the heart of Christendom. There are indeed times when it is necessary 'to be cruel to be kind.'

We hear thoughtless people talk foolishly, but where is the American who respects freedom, and believes in enlightenment, believes in protecting the weak, who believes in the uplifting of humanity, who does not know in his heart, and acknowledge, that the visit of the stars and stripes to the Philippine Islands was a very God-send to that country?

From the actions of our government in the past through all its history, we must believe that in the future as in the past, this flag shall be the emblem of all that is good and true and kindly, for the upbuilding of the nation.

To Mrs. Hugus, Patriotic Instructor for the Woman's Relief Corps, too much credit cannot be given for arranging this occasion of honoring the flag, and at the same time re-dedicating the old building which stands before us as a memento of the brave things of the past, the good and kindly things of the present, and the hope of the future.

Dr. McDonald is to be commended for his patriotic sentiment in preserving this old block house and raising this flag in memory of the old times, and in evidence of all we hold dear. The block house is the last relic in Fort Scott of the Civil War. May its like in grim action never be needed again.

Dr. Porter will now offer prayer.

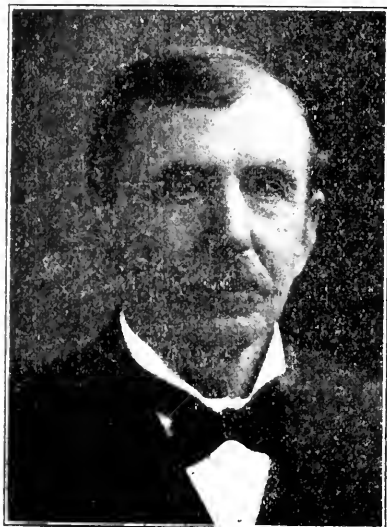
JUDGE W. R. BIDDLE'S ADDRESS.

After the invocation of the divine blessing by the Rev. Dr. W. C. Porter, of the First Presbyterian church, W. R. Biddle was introduced and made the address of the day, speaking as follows:

Comrades, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

It would have been better to have selected some person to deliver the address on this occasion who had been one of the early settlers of this town and who had been a participant in the stirring times of its early growth. He would have been better fitted to enter into the spirit of the occasion and have been better able to give a clear understanding of the struggles incident to those early times.

However well informed a person may be on the early history of Fort Scott from the lips of others and from the history of those times, yet he can never clearly see nor disclose the actual facts, the trials and the work of those early-settlers as the one who was a party to



W. R. BIDDLE

them and who was a part of them.

From 1813, when this point was established as a fort by the United States Government, and named after Lieutenant General Winfield Scott, it was a rendezvous for United States troops kept for the purpose of protecting the Missouri border. Kansas was on the map as a part of the Great American Desert.

The climate and the fertility of the soil were practically unknown. A few adventurers had passed across its broad prairies, but no settled habitation of the American people had been made within its borders.

After the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill in 1854, creating Kansas and Nebraska territories and opening up the country



T. W. TALLMAN

for settlement, a few adventurous spirits immediately arrived in Fort Scott and founded the town.

One of the first of these was Col. Hiero T. Wilson. He was joined immediately thereafter by Gov. George A. Crawford.

Following him came Doc. Ransom, Judge Joe Williams, Sam Williams, George W. Clark, C. H. Haynes, Judge William Margrave, T. W. Tallman, Dr. Couch, B. F. Riggin, Blake Little, Dr. Hill, Dr. Bills, old man Roach, Jack Harris, Squire Bullock, William Linn, J. S. Cawkins, Solomon P. Hall, Ed Wiggins, Charles Osbun, George Daniels, A. F. Bicking, Dick Phillips, Alexander McDonald, William Smith, Jack White, William Dennison, Sol Eaton, C. F. Drake, E. L. Marble, William Gallaher, B. P. McDonald, A. H. Campbell, Charles Dimon, Jack Arnett, E. M. Hullett, John Crow, John G. Stewart, Dr. Redfield, Isaac Stadden, William Judson, C. W. Goodlander, Wiley Anderson, C. W. Blair, A. R. Allison, John Miller, David Manlove, David Emmert, George Dimon, Carter Wilder, J. R. Morley, George Clark, Thomas Bridgen, Julius Neubauer, John Dillon, George Stockmeyer, Billy Robinson, Ben Files, Mrs. Dr. Baldwin, Mrs. E. T. Dorey Mrs. Coston Dr. J. S. Redfield C. T. Rucker and Rev. Austin Warner, some of these bringing with them wives and families

The passage of the bill which opened Kansas to settlement created great excitement throughout the entire country. By the admission of Missouri in 1820, a compromise was made between the opposing forces of the South and North whereby it was agreed that slavery should never be established by law north of the southern line of Kansas. And many good people of the North thought that the passage of this bill was a violation of that compromise.

By the terms of this bill the slave holder was permitted to bring his slaves into Kansas, and what was known as "Squatter Sovereignty" was established. That is, the people were to inhabit the territory and when a sufficient number of them had done so they were to vote upon the proposition as to whether Kansas should be a slave or a free state.

This created a conflict between two opposing forces of society in the United States. One believed that slavery was a divine

institution and that the negro was property. That he was of an inferior race and by nature was intended to be a servant for the white man.

The other believed that all men, without regard to color, should be free. That slavery was inconsistent with the divine law, was contrary to human justice and that it was a blight on civilization. That it not only injured and degraded the colored man, but that it had an injurious effect upon the white race.

The conflict was seen by the leaders of the South as well as those of the North, and Kansas was made the battle ground.

The result was that those who came to Kansas came here with a definite purpose which was to make Kansas a free or a slave state.

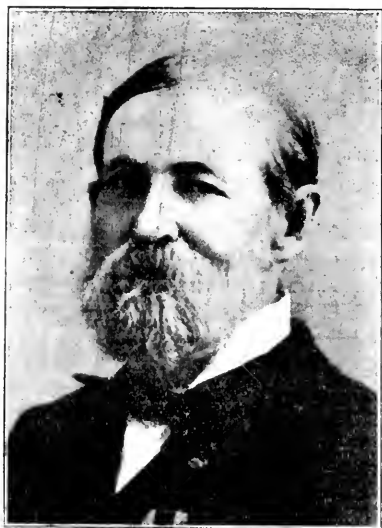
We can scarcely realize how deep and strong the feeling was on both sides. The early pioneer who came to Kansas to make it his home had the courage of his convictions. The falterer, the compromiser, the timid and the coward, were not among these early pioneers. They were men of courage and determination. I think few of them thought at that time that the conflict would extend beyond the Kansas territory. They evidently were aware of the importance of the conflict, and that the entire people of the United States were interested in its results.

Four miles east of the fort was the western line of Missouri. No monument indicated where that line was, but east of it the country was inhabited by a people who were practically unanimously in favor of making Kansas a slave state.

Seventy-five miles east was Osceola, the head waters of navigation on the Osage river. 100 miles north was Westport, the nearest point of navigation on the Missouri river. Without railroads and surrounded by an uninhabited prairie, these early pioneers located their town upon the banks of the Marmaton and Buck Run. Along these streams were scattered a few cottonwood trees. Their banks were precipitate and the location of the town was upon a rocky, hilly, broken surface.

Perhaps the location of the fort here caused the location of

the town. One by one the early pioneers dropped in from all parts of the country. Some from Kentucky, others from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana and Illinois, some from New England. They gathered here on these stony hills and founded the present city of Fort Scott.



C. H. HAYNES

It was a very small beginning, but it had within its little boundaries an enterprising, audacious, courageous and determined people.

It was true of the early settlement of Fort Scott as of all early settlements that not every one who came remained. Some went farther out on the frontier. Others went back to their wife's people. Some sought other locations, while others were stricken down in the conflict. And still others succumbed to the struggle and passed away from disease and privation. The sturdiest alone remained.

There were some incidents characteristic of these early settlers that should be noted. They were very hospitable. They were always prepared for danger. They made it their business to know every person, who settled in their midst, what his politics was and where he was from, his ancestry, his religion, his beliefs upon slavery and on which side of the conflict he stood. Every man was on one side or the other. There was no middle ground.

Again, there were no duds among them. Calf skin was an unknown leather. Boiled shirts were worn only on special occasions. Stovepipe hats had a great struggle for existence. Linen collars were not kept for sale in the country stores. Travel was on foot, horseback, by wagon or by stage coach. Roads were not on section lines, for there were none.

The early settlers were very fond of amusement. Fun and

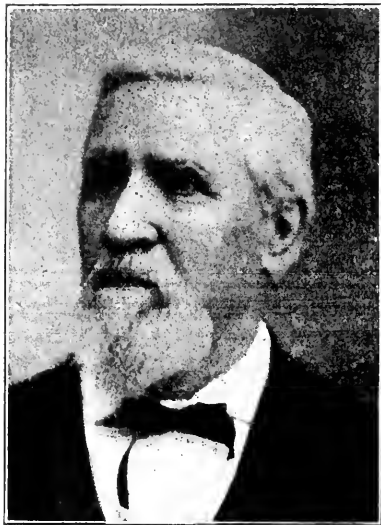


J. A. DURKEE



DR. SARAH C. HALL

music are as inherent in man's nature as is his reverence for the



JOHN McDONALD

Deity, and the early settlers of Fort Scott were up to frolics of all kinds. Dancing and social parties were frequently had. Horse racing, shooting contests and athletic sports received encouragement. The mails were very slow. Letters were few. And thus the settlement began.

Being a law unto themselves and punishing transgressors in a summary way at first, they soon established courts, organized school districts and were prepared for every emergency.

In each emergency in human society the man for the occasion comes forward and is selected. And the leading men in Fort Scott soon came to the front. The success of a town depends first upon capable, disinterested leaders in whom the people have confidence and in the hearty co-operation of the people. This was the case in Fort Scott.

Without trying to select those who should be mentioned as leaders, I think none will question the fact that Col. Wilson, Gov. Crawford, C. F. Drake, C. W. Goodlander, B. P. McDonald, Dr. Redfield and C. H. Osburn can each well be mentioned in that connection. The people were alive to the occasion.

Among the old settlers who still survive and are still residents of Fort Scott, the following may be mentioned.

A. H. Campbell and wife, B. P. McDonald and wife, Mrs. C. Haynes, Mrs. C. W. Goodlander, E. L. Marble, C. H. Osburn, T. W. Tallman, Ben Files, Mrs T. F. Robley, George Stockmeyer, Mrs. Dr. Baldwin, Mrs. Eunice Dorey, Mrs. Coston, John Gardner,

Mrs. Dr. Redfield, C. T. Rucker, Austin Warner, Ed Wiggins and Mrs. John McDonald.

This old block house was built in 1863. It was made of hewed logs sided with rough boards as you see it now. It was built by the government on the corner of Scott Avenue and first street. It possesses, as you see, no beauty, and has no architectural finish. In fact, it is one of the crudest of buildings. But it was built for a purpose, and was regarded in that early day as one of the essential defenses of Fort Scott. Fortunately there was never any especial necessity for its use. During the Price raid it would have been of great utility had Price's army attacked Fort Scott.

One of our distinguished fellow citizens, who has perhaps delved deeper into the sentiment that surrounds it, and has seen more clearly the lessons its preservation will teach the future generations than others; and through whose liberality it has been placed upon this lot where we now stand, that no ruthless hand may hereafter desecrate it. That it may be preserved and observed by the coming generations of men, and that it may teach them a lesson of patriotism and loyalty. That it may remind them of the heroic days of our early pioneers. Of their sacrifices, of their courage, and of the privations they endured during their pioneer life.

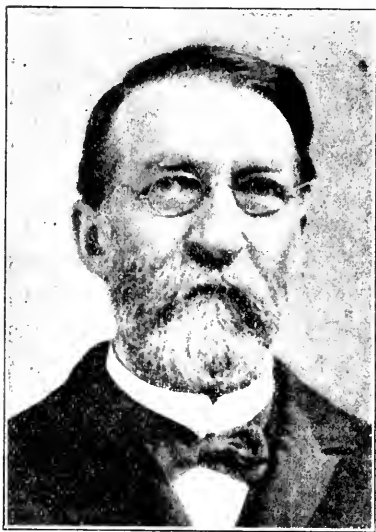
Accompanying it is the beautiful flag staff located by the same patriotic citizen. All honor to Dr. W. S. McDonald. Some call his efforts, expenses and trouble in preserving the old block house and locating this fine flag staff, as a mere sentiment. Truly it is not a business venture. The money that he expended and the labor that he has done in preserving this old relic will never cause him to clip interest coupons because of his investment. There is no pecuniary income from it, and it is true that these efforts on his behalf are the results of patriotism and sentiment.

The man who sees nothing but gain in all of his efforts in life can not appreciate and never will appreciate the work Dr. McDonald has done.

It is not by gaining wealth that character is builded.

"He who creates and perpetuates a noble sentiment and patriotic spirit and a love of country, and who can by such acts as these

remind the coming youth of the heroic days of the early pioneers, and the founders of our civilization, will long be remembered when those who devote their energies to sordid gain are forgotten.



W. H. STOUT

I admire the sentiment.

I love the act, and we should all love and honor the man who has expended his time and his means in the preservation of this old relic.

The public, and especially the women of the Women's Relief Corps, assisted by Mrs. Laura E. Hugus, and the old soldiers of the Grand Army of the Republic, and J. P. Robens who suggested the idea, have fully appreciated the efforts of our distinguished fellow citizen by contributing to the purchase of this flag which now waves at the top of the flag staff. They understand the motive. They realize the sac-

rifice of our early pioneers, and all honor to them.

May this old block house and this flag staff continue to exist and may this flag wave for all time, so that the generations of men who come hereafter may be reminded of the brave and heroic deeds as well as the patriotism of our early pioneers, and also those now here who seek to preserve these relics, and that a true sentiment of patriotism may be fully hereafter maintained.

I don't believe those old pioneers realized fully the civilization they were creating. I don't believe they contemplated the fact that they were the founders of a great state. They builded better than they knew. Broadened in mind and in spirit by the free air and the waving grass of the boundless prairies, they grew broader and better each year. Like all of the Anglo-Saxon race they organized towns, counties, townships and school districts, and using a law of their

own making, punished transgressors and evil-doers in a summary way; but soon established courts and recognized the force of law, and Kansas became one of the most law-abiding places on the face of the earth.

When we look over this county and over Eastern Kansas and see the fine orchards, the waving grain, the fields of corn, the fine



DANIEL TODD

residences, all the land in cultivation, we can hardly realize what a transformation has been made. It is such a transformation as is known only in America.

The founders of Rome had those qualities that made the great Roman republic. The Pilgrim fathers who landed at Plymouth Rock stamped their character forever upon the civilization, customs, laws and society of the New England states. Captain John Smith and his cavaliers at Jamestown have given strength and direction to civilization in Virginia and Kentucky.

If we should go farther back we would find the spirit of Moses and Joshua influen-

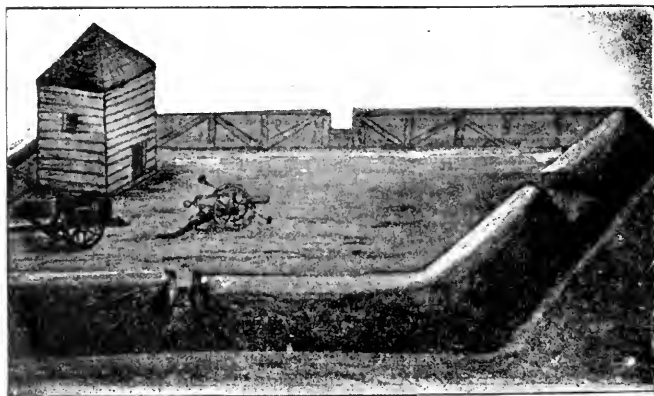
cing the destinies of the Jewish nation for centuries after they were buried. The same can be said of Kansas.

These early pioneers gave and still give Kansas its civilization, its morality, its education and its religion, their early struggles purified. Their character gave strength and prominence to their wisdom, and thus gave to themselves and their children those qualities that have made Kansas so great.

While the preservation of this block house and this flag staff with the flag continually waving in the breeze from its highest point,



GEO. A. CRAWFORD



FORT BLAIR

is commendable, yet these are not the most enduring monuments to our early pioneers.

If we look over Fort Scott and Bourbon county we will there find a more enduring monument. These happy homes of prosperous freemen; these churches; these schools; the care for the unfortunate and homeless; these institutions of education, religion and humanity; these fine streets and fine shade trees; these railroads; but greater by far the strong energies they created by which the resources of the future are to be developed. These are the monuments of our early pioneers.

Their memorial is all over this city and this county. Our smallest streams; our beloved Marmaton roll mingling with their fame forever."

DR. McDONALD'S RESPONSE.

"Ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps, Gentlemen of the Grand Army of the Republic, Gentlemen of the Union Veterans' Legion, and Fellow Citizens, one and all: It affords

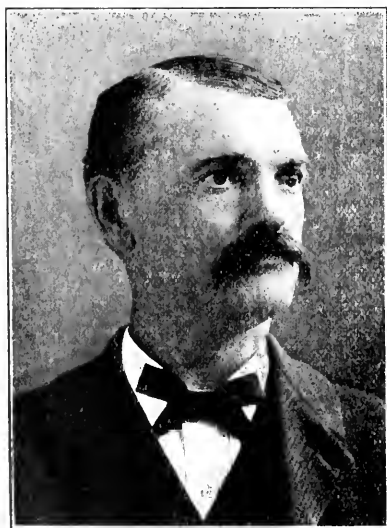


DR. W. S. McDONALD

me great pleasure to greet you here this afternoon. I am not vain enough to think for a moment that your assembling here is entirely in recognition of anything I have done. But I feel that you come to pay homage to the flag, to see Old Glory unfurled and to renew your allegiance to it. It does us good once in a while to stand under the Stars and Stripes, to catch inspiration from its glittering folds, and to have it stir up our emotions and pull our heart strings. It helps us to feel that everything

in this life that is worth living for is centered in that flag. It is a glad response to all our hopes, our fears, our joys and sorrows. It

is the embodiment of all the best things that have happened in the past. It is the promise of all the good that is yet to come. It appeals to our best thoughts and purposes. It awakens new hopes and aspirations and makes us thankful to God that we live under its benign influence and power. Whether we behold it peacefully waving over our lawn, from the stately ship or barren island—it means the same to every true heart. Liberty—Fraternity—and Equality. It is an incentive to every honorable deed and a rebuke to unrighteousness. It signals the victories of our fathers across the continent, and heralds the glad shout of a free people from the Atlantic to the Pacific; from the rocky headlands of Maine to the land of the Montezumas. As another has said, "It is the symbol of all that we are and of all that we hope to be." It is the emblem of equal rights. It means that this continent has been dedicated to freedom; it means Universal Education—Light for every mind—Knowledge for every child. It means that the school house is the fortress of our liberty. It means that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. It means that it is the duty of every citizen to bear his



D. C. CONGDON

part of the public burden—to take part in the affairs of his town—his county—his state and his country. It means that all distinctions based on birth or blood have perished from our laws; that our Government shall stand between labor and capital, between the weak and the strong, between the individual and the corporation, between want and wealth, and give and guarantee simple justice to each and all. It is the emblem of the supreme will of the nation—beneath its folds the weakest must be protected and the strongest must obey. It rep-

resents the sufferings of the past and the glories yet to be.”

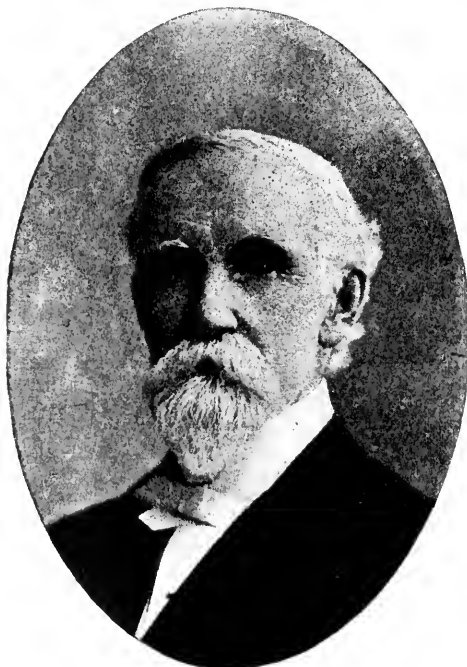
Many of you gentlemen have followed it through rebellion's darkest days—at Bull Run, Manassas, Vicksburg, Antietam, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, and have seen the tide of battle ebb and flow around it, and have risked your lives again and again in its defense. To you this day we bow our heads in grateful recognition of your noble sacrifice, and in return we pledge ourselves to better citizenship and to more faithfully shield the flag you have preserved for us.

And to you ladies, who willingly gave up lives dearer to you than your own life—to you who in the dark days were a living sacrifice for our country, we offer words of hope and cheer—hope that as citizens we may live so loyal to truthful and righteous that no dark hour will ever obscure its folds and that dawn's early light will always reveal what so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming. To you ladies, especially of the Relief Corps—to you gentlemen of the Grand Army of the Republic—to you gentlemen of the Union Veterans Legion, and to you Citizens one and all, I cannot find words to properly express my appreciation for your gift, this beautiful flag. If I should attempt it, I would want to thank you not only for myself and wife, but I would want to thank you in behalf of every man, woman and child that may behold it. For be assured as it flaps from yon height, it will be an object of love to the veteran—an inspiration to our youth and a lesson of patriotism to every child.

*“When freedom from her mountain height,
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
And set the stars of glory there!
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldric of the skies,
And striped its pure celestial white
With streakings of the morning light;
Then from his mansion in the sun,
She called her eagle-bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land.*

*“Flag of the free, heart's hope and home,
 By angel hands to valor given,
 Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
 And all thy hues were born in heaven.
 Forever float that standard sheet,
 Where breathes the foe but fails before us,
 With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
 And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us.”*

And friends, as much as I feel complimented and honored, here to-day by your presence: as much as I am delighted with your beautiful gift, it pleases me more to feel that this flag raising is not so much in honor of present achievement as it is of the past.



REV. W. C. PORTER

The thoughts and emotions aroused in us this afternoon by that grim, sturdy pile of oak; the block house, its rough hewn timbers; its yawning port holes; all carry us in imagination back to heroic days, and we honor and reverence those men and women who stamped their character on those rough logs; who poured their hearts' blood into the conflict. Many of the hands that hewed these timbers are now motionless, the lips that gave command are hushed; but the silent grim structure stands there before

us—a symbol of those sanguinary times—a monument of the past.

With a spirit of deep respect and love for the sturdy manhood and valor of our early pioneers, I have endeavored to place

this crumbling, decaying structure on a sure foundation, where it may rest for many years to come, that our children and children's children may see in it a reminder of the trials and heroism of their ancestry. Today, thank God, peace reigns over the length and breadth of our land; and under its sunshine as we raise this flag aloft, let us dedicate and consecrate it to the bravery and valor of all our old citizens, living and dead, who followed the flag through the dangers of pillage and war which devastated this land, and who on this very ground on which we stand, fearlessly led in the conflict and bared their breasts to every danger in defense of their homes and their country—to the memory of those heroes, let us raise this flag and may God grant that we may live worthy of their memories and the grand inheritance they have left us—a free and undivided country.

HISTORY OF BLOCK HOUSES.

When President Lincoln, in 1861, issued his first proclamation for troops for three months' service, a battalion was raised in

Fort Scott and ordered to report at Wyandotte, Kansas. But before camp and garrison equipage could be furnished, the time for their enlistment had expired, and they were mustered out of service and returned home.

Immediately after the second call of President Lincoln for troops, recruiting officers were detailed, and the Sixth Kansas Cavalry was mustered into service with full complement of officers and men. This regiment, with other troops, remained on duty at Fort Scott for the purpose of guarding the large quantities of quartermaster, ordi-



MRS. LAURA E. HUGUS

nance and hospital stores, which were placed at Fort Scott by the government for supplying the troops south to the Red River.

In order to guard this large quantity of supplies, fortifications were ordered to be erected at Fort Scott, consisting of breast-works, stockades and three lunettes (block houses), under the supervision of Capt. William Holcke, U. S. Army Engineer. This was done under the direction of the Secretary of War. These lunettes or block houses were constructed and named. One, Fort Insley, was located on the point of the mound near where the Plaza School building now is. This was the largest and was used for the purpose of storing ammunition. Fort Henning, another of the block houses, was located on the corner of First Street and Scott Avenue, where the post office now stands. Fort Blair, another of the block houses, was located on the corner of Second Street and National Avenue. Two large twenty-four pound siege guns were planted near Fort Blair.

The government failed to furnish any fixed ammunition for the siege guns, and Peter Riley, a member of the Sixth Kansas,



MARY B. McDONALD.

who is still living and enjoying a heart old age, and who was then clerk of the ordinance department at Fort Scott, made and filled flannel sacks with powder, with which these siege guns were charged. Mr. Riley still preserves the thimble he used in making these sacks. These siege guns were moved to the point of the mound north of the Plaza during the Price Raid and the sight of them indicated to Price's army, as they came north of the Marmaton, that Fort Scott was well prepared to defend itself, and evidently

caused his army to move off east into Missouri, thus leaving Fort

Scott from being pillaged and burned. Fort Scott was at that time defended by less than 100 men and Price's army was being sorely pressed by Blair and Moonlight's men, who engaged the rear guard of Price's army on Shilo Creek, about four miles east of Fort Scott. The boom of the guns in this engagement was sweet music to the then inhabitants of the Solid City. W. H. Riley, son of Peter Riley, after the fight picked up on the battlefield a bullet mould which his father still preserves.

All these lunettes have been destroyed or disappeared except Fort Henning. It was first moved to the corner north and across Second Street. Several years ago Dr. W. S. McDonald purchased, removed and located it on Lot 4, Block 101, being on the lawn immediately south of his residence. He also erected a flag staff in front of it on the same lot, and proposes to preserve it. In front of it, on the same lot, is a cannon, an old one that was captured from Gen. Price.

Pursuant to an order of Gen. Blunt, dated March 6th, 1863, Capt. Haines assisted in the erection of these fortifications. The order is as follows :

“Headquarters, District of Kansas,
Fort Leavenworth, March 11, 1863.

“Special Order No. 41.

“First Lieut. C. H. Haynes, 6th Reg. Ks. Vol. is hereby detailed on Engineer duty and will report to Capt. W. Hoke A. D. C., superintending erection of fortifications at Fort Scott, Kansas.

“By order of

Brig. Genl. Blunt.

“Moonlight,

“Lieut. Col. & chf. of Staff.”

Lieutenant Haines also took command of the fortifications, pursuant to the following order:

“May 3rd, 1863.

“Lieutenant C. H. Haines, Company K, Sixth Kansas Cavalry, is hereby ordered to assume command of fortifications now being erected at Fort Scott, Kansas, under plans and specifications fur-



MRS. C. H. HAYNES.

nished him with this order, consisting of breast works, stockades and three lunettes, namely, Fort Insley, Fort Henry and Fort Blair. And also to take charge of, and account for all government stores now being used in said construction and turned over to him at this time.

‘Wm. Holeke, Capt and U. S. Army
Engineer in charge of erection of for-
tifications at Fort Scott, Kansas.’”

Lieutenant Haines became Captain of Company B, 14th Kansas Cavalry, and his widow, now residing in Fort Scott, has preserved these orders, and takes much pride in showing them to her friends, as well she may, but has lately kindly presented them framed to the Fort Scott Historical Society.

These forts, or lunettes, were built of sawed slabs or thick boards thoroughly spiked, covered with shingles and weather-boarded with rough boards sawed from native lumber. They each had openings for rifles and small cannon.





OUR FLAG

By J. P. ROBENS.

*In the days of old, as we are told,
In history's leaves of gold:
We had no flag, as floats to-day
O'er land and islands far away.*

*On Mohawk's banks, whose waters glide
To Hudson's—thence to Ocean's tide;
A woman gave her flannel skirt,
An emblem true for Freedom's work.*

*That emblem waved till victory came,
Under Washington, who with acclaim
Drove British back from Jersey's fields,
Where lordly Howe reluctant yields.*

*The banner rose brave o'er the sea,
Where British pride would conquerors be—
Their hopes were dashed by the Chesapeake
Whose glorious deeds, I need not speak.*

*Later this flag swept Mexico's plain,
Fearlessly leading for humanity's gain,
And under Dillingham's masterful sway,
A hand opened ports to commerce way.*

*And later, when the cry of treason rang
For a disabled Union,—a divided land,
This flag waved out from sea to sea,
Protecting those who would be free.*

*And while the curse of Spain's proud hand
Fell year by year on Cuba's land
Our flag with stars of heavenly light,
Released the isle in Freedom's might.*

*This, the history of a gallant flag
Commencing as a dismal rag,
No nation feared; but in our time,
Is loved and waved in every clime.*

*Thus float old flag! For evermore,
Grandest of all in history's store,
Till men and Nations shall be no more.*

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 016 089 241 9